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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN  
SUPERINTENDENT OF  
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

May 19, 2011

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Local Educational Agency Superintendents, Intermediate School Superintendents, and Public School Academy Directors

FROM: Sally Vaughn, Ph.D. *Sally*  
Deputy Superintendent/Chief Academic Officer

SUBJECT: SB-CEU Opportunity for Non "Seat Time" Based Professional Development

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is pleased to announce the opportunity for educators to earn one (1) free, online State Board Continuing Educational Unit (SB-CEU) for demonstrating their instructional technology skill level. This simple, straightforward professional development opportunity is different than traditional methods because it requires no seat time.

Since 2007, Superintendent of Public Instruction Mike Flanagan has used his authority to waive certain administrative rules to provide schools with flexibility in implementing innovative teaching and learning models. As a result, MDE has fielded questions about seat time requirements for educator professional development as it relates to earning SB-CEUs.

Responding to these inquiries, the Superintendent intends to sponsor a series of "non-seat time" professional development pilots to support effective professional development that promotes "Any Time, Any Place, Any Way, Any Pace" professional learning that is outside of "punching in" and "punching out" of officially-sanctioned SB-CEU activities. The first pilot focuses on instructional technology skills developed outside of structured professional development offerings.

**Pilot #1: "21 Things" Pre-Assessment**

The first opportunity to earn **one (1) SB-CEU** for non "seat time" based professional development involves the completion of the *21 Things for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Educators* pre-survey. *21 Things for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Educators* is a professional development program sponsored by the Regional Educational Media Centers (REMCs). The program assists educators in developing their instructional technology skills. The program begins with a self-assessment of skills through the completion of a survey launched from the <http://www.21things4teachers.net> website.

The Superintendent will grant **one (1) SB-CEU** to each educator who completes the pre-assessment survey between May 5 and October 15, 2011. (MDE will not collect individual performance information on educators completing the survey.)

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To earn one (1) SB-CEU, each educator must:

1. Watch the launch video:
  - <http://www.mistreamnet.com/vidflv.php?who=mike050511> (MI StreamNet)
  - OR
  - <http://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/superintendents-non-seat-time/id394012713?i=93950315>  
(*MI Learning* on iTunes U)
2. Go to <http://www.21things4teachers.net> and review the site to gain understanding of which 21 technology topics and tools will be surveyed.
3. Reflect on the educator's own professional learning around the use of these topics and technologies in her/his classroom that happened outside structured offerings.
4. Click on the "Pre-Assessment" link and complete the *21 Things* Pre-Assessment.\*

\*Please note: completion of a second, common evaluation survey is required by the Secure Central Registry for every SB-CEU granting program.

There will be no cost or charge to the educator for completing the survey or for processing the SB-CEU through the Secure Central Registry. The SB-CEU will be awarded for an estimated ten hours of work completed by the educator in development of her/his technology skills outside other structured SB-CEU granting programs.

For additional questions, please contact the following points of contact by email:

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If you need to call, please contact the MDE Educational Technology and Data Coordination unit's main number at 517.335.2957. Calls will be returned as staff is available.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance